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Acting
Friday
November 7, 1952

EXCISE

B1, EA

Staff meeting.

I attended this morning the first Cabinet meeting which has taken place for a long time. There was a philosophical and good-natured discussion of the defeat suffered by the Democrats in the recent election.

Before the meeting, I talked to the President about the Iranian situation and obtained his signature to a memorandum stating [redacted] (1) he would approve the use of $100,000,000 of Jess Larson's funds to purchase oil, and (2) he would use, if the negotiations made it necessary, his emergency powers to permit American oil companies to discuss the Iranian problem with us, and enter into [redacted] agreements without becoming subject to legal action for violation of anti-trust laws.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

This afternoon Messrs. Thorp, Linder, Schaetzel and Sohm discussed the affairs of the Economic Division with me. They are [redacted] anxious for the International Bank to complete arrangements for a loan to Syria. Gene Black had mentioned this to me some days ago, and said [redacted] he did not see how the Bank could violate its precedent, and go through with such a loan without the assent of the Syrian Parliament. This Parliament was dissolved, or at any rate is not presently being used, since the Syrian dictator Colonel Shashlik finds himself able to dispense with it.

I telephoned Black about this, and he says he will give the matter further consideration.

CONFIDENTIAL

John Hays of Indiana came to see me. He has been active in the Eisenhower campaign and wanted to discuss [illegible]

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State Department to make the transition from one Administration to the other more efficient.

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